APR 1 6 2007 IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of:) Before the Examiner
Charles L. Branch, et al.) Pedro Philogene
Serial No. 10/792,358)) Crown Art Huit 2722
Filed: March 3, 2004) Group Art Unit 3733
INSTRUMENTS AND METHODS FOR) April 12, 2007
MINIMALLY INVASIVE TISSUE RETRACTION AND SURGERY) Atty. Docket No. MSDI-90/PC689.02

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents PO Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Pursuant to the duty of disclosure embodiment in 37 C.F.R. §1.56, applicant wishes to bring to the attention of the Examiner the following patents, publication and/or other information listed on the attached PTO Form 1449.

This information is not believed to have previously submitted in this application, and has not heretofore been cited by the Examiner. The filing of this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement shall not construed as an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in §1.56 or prior art.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope with sufficient postage addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on April 12, 2007.

Douglas A. Collier
of Registered Representative

ada () (il)

O Signature

April 12, 2007

Date of Signature

This information is being cited along with the filing of a Request for Continued Examination. Should any additional fees be required, please charge the same to Deposit Account 12-2424, but not including the payment of any issue fees that are or may become due.

Respectfully submitted:

Bv:

Douglas A. Collier Reg. No. 43,556 Krieg DeVault LLP 2800 One Indiana Square

Indianapolis, Indiana 46204-2079

Phone:

(317) 636-4341

KD_IM-958105_1

PTO/SB/08A (07-05)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

the Paper of Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449/PTO

Sheet 1

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

APR 1 6 2007

(Use as many sheets as'necessary)

Complete if Known		
Application Number	10/792,358	
Filing Date	March 3, 2004	
First Named Inventor	Charles L. Branch	
Art Unit	3733	
Examiner Name	Pedro Philogene	
Attorney Docket Number	MSDLQ0/PC68Q 02	

Examiner	Cite	Document Number	Publication Date	DOCUMENTS Name of Patentee or	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where
Initials*	No.1	Number-Kind Code ^{2 (# known)}	MM-DD-YYYY	Applicant of Cited Document	Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		^{US-} 6,196,969	03-06-2001	Bester et al.	
		^{US-} 6,945,933	09-20-2005	Branch et al.	
		^{US-} 2005/0113644	05-26-2005	Obenchain et al.	
		^{US-} 2005/0192485	09-01-2005	Branch et al.	
		^{US-} 2005/0234304	10-20-2005	Dewey et al.	
		^{US-} 2006/0069315	03-30-2006	Miles et al.	
		US-			-
		US-			
		US-			
-		US-			
		US-			
	1	US-			
	<u> </u>	US-			
		US-			
		US-			
	 	US-	1		

	TOKE	FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS				
Cite No.1	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages		
	Country Code ^{3 -} Number ^{4 -} Kind Code ⁵ (if known)	MM-DD-YYYY		Or Relevant Figures Appear	L	
					L	
					L	
					╠	
					L	
		No. ¹	No. ¹ Date MM-DD-YYYY	No.1 Date Applicant of Cited Document	No. Date Applicant of Cited Document Where Relevant Passages MM-DD-YYYY Mm-DD-YYYY Myere Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	

Examiner	Date	
Signature	Considered	

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.